

WISWALL

Titus, Anson

The Wiswall Family of America

Boston 1886

Gift of  
The WRHS

## THE WISWALL FAMILY OF AMERICA.

## FOUR GENERATIONS.

By the Rev. ANSON TITUS, Amesbury, Mass.

**E**LDER JOHN WISWALL, of Boston, whom Savage says was a brother of Thomas Wiswall, of Dorchester, married a daughter of Thomas Smith, of London; probably had a second wife. His children were: *John*; *Hannah*, married, 1st Mahabaleel Munnings, 2d William Read, and 3d Thomas Overman. She died in 1694. *Deborah*; *Mary*, married Emands; *Esther*, married Daniel Fisher; *Martha*, married John Cutter, of Charlestown; *Lydia*, married — Ballard; *Ruth*, married Henry Mountfort, their son Ebenezer, H. C. 1702; *Rebecca*, married Matthew Johnson. Other children died young. The following is the inscription upon his gravestone: "Here lyeth buried ye body of John Wiswall, servant of Jesus Christ, Elder of the First Church in Boston, aged 86 years. Departed this life the 17<sup>th</sup> day of Aug<sup>t</sup> Anno Dom. 1687." John Wiswall, 2d, married 1st, Mellicent —; married 2d, Hannah —, and had John, born March 21, 1667, who was "a young man with somewhat original objurgatory tendencies."\* John, 2d, was a mariner, and died about 1700, leaving widow Mary who married a White. John Wiswall, 2d, is mentioned as "a well-known and wealthy citizen." First Report of Recor'd Commissioners, page 40. None of the Wiswall name of to-day are of this line.

1. THOMAS<sup>1</sup> WISWALL, said by Savage to have been a brother of the foregoing John. He resided in Dorchester, Cambridge, Newton; was born in England; came to New England in 1635; married 1st, Elizabeth —; married 2d, late in life, Isabelle, mother of Edward Farmer, Billerica, and widow of John. The second wife died in Billerica, May 21, 1686. He died December 6, 1683. He was an elder of the church, and was a useful man in every department of church, official and social life. Children:
  2. i. ENOCH, b. 1633.
  - ii. ESTHER, bapt. 1635; m. May 16, 1655, William Johnson, Woburn; had nine children.
  3. iii. ICHABOD, b. 1637.
  4. iv. NOAH, bapt. Dec. 30, 1639.
  - v. MARY, m. Samuel Payson. (So stated by Jackson and Savage.)
  - vi. SARAH, bapt. March 19, 1653; m. Nathaniel Holmes.

\* Vide Bay State Monthly, January, 1884, pp. 24-7, and February, 1884, p. 128.

vii. EBENEZER, b. 1646; m. Mar. 28, 1695, Sarah Foster, widow of Elisha and daughter of Giles Payson. He died June 21, 1691. His widow died in 1714.

viii. ELIZA, b. April 15, 1649.

The Dorchester Church records contain the baptism of Benjamin Wiswall and Mary 16. 2 mo. 49. Savage places Benjamin among the children of Elder John Wiswall, but adds that Mr. Ebenezer Clapp, "after most patient investigation," thinks that he and another child named Henry "may have belonged" to Thomas.

2. ENOCH<sup>2</sup> WISWALL (*Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) married Nov. 25, 1657, Elizabeth daughter of John Oliver, Boston, "the scholar." She died May 31, 1712, aged 75 years. He died Nov. 28, 1706, aged 73 years. *Vide* Oliver family, *ante*, REG. 1865, p. 100. Children:

- i. JOHN, b. Dec. 10, 1658.
- ii. ENOCH, b. Jan. 10, 1661; d. young.
- iii. HANNAH, b. April 6, 1662.
6. iv. OLIVER, b. Jan. 25, 1664-5.
- v. ELIZABETH, b. April 28, 1667; d. April 25, 1692.
- vi. ESTHER, b. Dec. 28, 1669; m. Silence Allen, Jan. 20, 1692.
- vii. SUSANNA, b. Aug. 2, 1672; m. Edward Breck, April 1, 1698. He d. in Dorchester, Sept. 3, 1713, aged 39 years.
- viii. ENOCH, b. April 6, 1675; d. Oct. 8, 1676.
- ix. MARY, b. Aug. 27, 1677; m. Samuel Robinson, March 13, 1706.
- x. SAMUEL, b. Sept. 2, 1679; H. C. 1701; ordained over church at Edgartown; unmarried; d. Dec. 23, 1746.
- xi. ENOCH,
7. xii. EBENEZER, } twins, b. Feb. 25, 1682.

3. ISHABOD<sup>2</sup> WISWALL (*Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) married 1st. Remember —; married 2d, Priscilla Peabody, Dec. 24, 1687, daughter of William<sup>2</sup> (John<sup>1</sup>) and Elizabeth (Alden) Peabody. Priscilla was named for her grandmother Priscilla (Mullens) Alden, wife of John. Ishabod entered Harvard College, but did not graduate. He was ordained pastor of church in Duxbury, and died there July 23, 1700. His wife Priscilla died in Kingston, June 3, 1724, a. 71 years. Children:

- i. ELIZABETH, b. Nov. 6, 1670 (by first wife); m. Elisha Wadsworth, Duxbury; d. Jan. 25, 1741.
- ii. MERCY, b. Oct. 4, 1680; m. Dea. John Wadsworth, June 25, 1704; d. Nov. 12, 1716.
- iii. HANNAH, b. Feb. 22, 1682; m. Rev. John Robinson, her father's successor in the Duxbury pastorate. *Vide* REG. vol. viii. p. 173.
6. iv. PELEG, b. Feb. 5, 1683.
- v. PEREZ, b. Nov. 22, 1686. Not mentioned in father's will, 1700.
- vi. PRISCILLA, b. Dec. 21, 1691; m. Oct. 23, 1716, Gershom Bradford. *Vide* REG. vol. iv. p. 50.
- vii. DEBORAH, m. Samuel Seabury, Oct. 17, 1717; d. in 1776, aged 84.

4. NOAH<sup>2</sup> WISWALL (*Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) married Theodocia, daughter of Deacon John Jackson, Dec. 10, 1664. Resided in Newton. He died July 6, 1690. His widow afterwards married Dea. Samuel Newman, Rehoboth, as his third wife. Children:

9. i. THOMAS, b. April 29, 1666.
- ii. ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 30, 1668; m. Rev. Thomas Greenwood, H. C. 1690, Rehoboth, Dec. 28, 1693. He died Sept. 8, 1720. She died in Weymouth, Jan. 21, 1735. Had several children, among whom John (H. C. 1717), who succeeded his father in pastoral office.
- iii. CALEN.
- iv. MARGARET, b. March 1, 1672; m. Nathaniel Parker; d. July 30, 1736.
- v. HANNAH, b. April 1, 1674; m. Caleb Stedman, Roxbury, 1697.

- vi. MARY, m. Nathaniel Longley.
  - vii. ESTHER, b. April 1, 1678.
  - viii. SARAH, b. Jan. 5, 1681; m. 1702, Joseph Cheney, Newbury.
5. JOHN<sup>s</sup> WISWALL (*Enoch*,<sup>2</sup> *Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) married Hannah, daughter of Richard Baker, May 5, 1685. She died Sept. 18, 1690, aged 28 years. He married, 2d, Mary —. Resided in Dorchester. Children:
- i. ENOCH, b. Jan. 7, 1685.
  - ii. JOHN, b. Nov. 15, 1688; m. 1st, Sarah Pierce, June 25, 1719. She died Dec. 31, 1747, and he m. 2d, Elizabeth, widow of John Capen, Nov. 1750. She died May 12, 1790, in her 57th year, and he died Sept. 12, 1774. Had eleven children by first wife—Hannah, Abigail, Ann, James, Esther, Lois, John, Sarah, Rachel, Lucy and Francis.
6. OLIVER<sup>s</sup> WISWALL (*Enoch*,<sup>2</sup> *Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) married Sarah, daughter of John Baker, Jan. 1, 1690. She died April 29, 1755, in her 87th year. He died March 14, 1746. Resided in Dorchester. Children:
- i. THOMAS, b. Aug. 9, 1692; m. Elizabeth Jones, Oct. 17, 1717. She died July 22, 1748. He died Nov. 21, 1752. Children: Sarah, Thomas, Mary and Elizabeth.
  - ii. HANNAH, b. Jan. 18, 1694-5; m. Edward White, Brookline, Jan. 22, 1718-19.
  - iii. ENOCH, b. March 19, 1697; m. Susanna Cocks, Nov. 30, 1722. She died July 15, 1772, and he died Feb. 6, 1784.
  - iv. EBENEZER, b. March 3, 1699.
  - v. OLIVER, b. June 2, 1702; m. Mary Minot, March 18, 1730. She died Jan. 2, 1795, in her 90th year, and he died Feb. 13, 1791.
  - vi. ISHABOD, b. Sept. 14, 1704.
10. vii. SAMUEL, b. April 13, 1707.
- viii. JOHN, b. Jan. 6, 1712.
7. EBENEZER<sup>s</sup> WISWALL (*Enoch*,<sup>2</sup> *Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) married Anna Capen, of Dorchester, Nov. 30, 1721. Children:
- i. EBENEZER, b. June 10, 1722.
  - ii. MARY, b. April 7, 1724.
  - iii. OLIVER, b. Nov. 24, 1725.
  - iv. NOAH, b. Nov. 25, 1727. (Settled in Westminster and died there, 1801.)?
  - v. DANIEL, b. Nov. 26, 1729.
  - vi. JOB, b. Sept. 10, 1731; d. Nov. 6, 1731.
  - vii. ESTHER, b. Dec. 28, 1732.
  - viii. SAMUEL, b. Oct. 3, 1734; m. Sarah Dyer, July 18, 1759, in Worcester.
  - ix. ELIJAH, b. Dec. 22, 1738; d. Jan. 16, 1738-9.
  - x. ANN, b. Jan. 11, 1739-40; d. Feb. 10, 1739-40.
  - xi. HANNAH, b. July 3, 1742; d. Sept. 16, 1742.
  - xii. ISHABOD, b. Dec. 18, 1743.
8. PELEG<sup>s</sup> WISWALL (*Ishabod*,<sup>2</sup> *Thomas*<sup>1</sup>), H.C. 1705, married Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. Samuel Rogers, H.C. 1686, of Ipswich. Published in Ipswich, Nov. 21, 1719. She died Dec. 1, 1743, a. 47. The following is the inscription upon his tombstone in Copp's Hill, Boston: "Here Lyes buried the Body of Mr. Peleg Wiswall, late Master of the North Grammar School, died Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1767, in the 84<sup>th</sup> year of his age." Mr. Wiswall became master of the Boston Grammar School early in the century. He was engaged for six months, in 1705, as per *Memorial History*, vol. ii., and invited to the North Grammar School in 1719. The *Memorial History* may be in error when it says that a son of the same name was given liberty for a writing school for this winter (1729) in the chamber of the Almshouse. Children:

- i. ELIZABETH, b. Nov. 4, 1720.
  - ii. DANIEL, b. Feb. 13, 1722; m. Sarah Hall, April 12, 1753. She died Sept. 17, 1769, aged 33. Buried in Cambridge.
  - iii. PRISCILLA, b. Dec. 17, 1725.
  - iv. SARAH, bapt. in Old South Church, Boston, May 4, 1729.
  - v. JOHN, b. April 15, 1731; H. C. 1749; settled over parish Falmouth, 1756. In 1761 changed religious views and settled over Episcopal Church in Portland; was a *loyalist* in the Revolution; went to England in 1775, where he was a curate; at close of Revolution he established himself at Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, where he died in 1812. He m. Mercy Minot, of Brunswick, daughter of Judge John Minot. Had family, among whom was son Peleg, Judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. Sabine's *Loyalists*, vol. ii. p. 448.
9. THOMAS<sup>9</sup> WISWALL (*Noah*,<sup>2</sup> *Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) resided in Newton on homestead of his father; married Hannah Cheney, of Newbury, Dec. 17, 1696. He died 1709. His widow married Dea. David Newman, Rehoboth, June, 1719. Children:
- i. HANNAH, b. Oct. 15, 1697.
  - ii. NOAH, b. Sept. 1699. Had a son John born 1753, who removed to Marlborough, N. H. *Vide* History of Marlborough, p. 700.
  - iii. SARAH, b. March 4, 1701; m. John Newman, 1730.
  - iv. MARY, b. Oct. 1, 1702.
  - v. ELIZABETH, b. Aug. 25, 1704; m. Nathaniel Longley, Jr.
  - vi. THOMAS, b. 1707; m. Sarah Daniel, Needham, Dec. 20, 1733; settled in Medway, Mass.
  - vii. ISHABOD, b. 1709 or 10; settled in Attleborough.
10. SAMUEL<sup>4</sup> WISWALL (*Oliver*,<sup>3</sup> *Enoch*,<sup>2</sup> *Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) married Elizabeth Franklin, Oct. 17, 1733, in Dorchester. Children:
- i. ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 29, 1733-4.
  - ii. DAVID, b. Nov. 13, 1735.
  - iii. JONATHAN, b. Feb. 11, 1737-8. Settled in Holliston, where he died in 1808, leaving wife Mary, sons David, Oliver, and several daughters.
  - iv. MOSES, b. Dec. 15, 1740.
  - v. RUTH, b. Oct. 12, 1742; m. Joshua Sabin. (*Ante*, Reg. vol. xxvi. p. 57.)
  - vi. BENJAMIN, b. Aug. 29, 1745.
  - vii. LUCY, b. Dec. 29, 1749; m. Sylvanus Sabin, and from whom the compiler descended. (*Ante*, Reg. vol. xxvi. 1882, p. 57.)
  - viii. —, b. Aug. 24, 1751.
  - ix. SARAH, b. Aug. 19, 1753.
  - x. SAMUEL, b. April 24, 1758.